IN THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A multilayered steel armour ~~consisting of~~comprising

a front-face ballistic-resistant armour layer, ~~(1) and~~

a backing armour layer ~~(2)~~, and~~which are fully metallurgically bonded by means of at least one~~

a joining metallic intermediate layer ~~(3) by casting, wide-area welding techniques, explosive cladding (high-velocity impact cladding), roll welding or by a combination thereof, wherein the~~ which joins the front-face ballistic layer and the backing armour layer over whole surfaces thereof, said joining metallic intermediate layer ~~(3) between the front-face ballistic resistant armour layer (1) and the backing armour layer (2) is made from material having a face-centered cubic crystalline lattice (FCC lattice) structure and~~consisting of a metal selected from the group consisting of steel and a nickel alloy containing maximally 98.0 wt% of nickel ~~and steel~~, said metal having a face-centered cubic crystalline lattice.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The multilayered steel armour according to claim 1, wherein the ~~material of the~~ joining metallic intermediate layer ~~(3) is~~consists of a nickel alloy containing between 50.0 wt% and 98.0 wt% of nickel, between 0.1 wt% and 45.0 wt% of at least one of the alloying elements selected from the group consisting of chromium, molybdenum,

manganese, niobium, titanium and iron, with a remainder of usual impurities.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The multilayered steel armour according to claim 1, wherein the ~~material of the~~ joining metallic intermediate layer ~~(3) is~~consists of a nickel alloy containing between 5.0 wt% and 50.0 wt% of nickel, in total between 0.1 wt% and 40.0 wt% of chromium, manganese, molybdenum, niobium and titanium as alloying elements, with a remainder of usual impurities.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The multilayered steel armour according to claim 1, wherein the ~~material of the~~ joining metallic intermediate layer ~~(3)~~ is steel ~~contains~~containing from 8.0 wt% to 30.0 wt% of manganese, in total from 0.1 wt% to 30.0 wt% of chromium, nickel, vanadium, silicone and carbon as alloying elements, with a remainder of usual impurities.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The multilayered steel armour according to claim 1, including at least one additional internal armour layer ~~(4,5)~~ placed between the front-face ballistic-resistant layer ~~(1)~~ and the backing armour layer ~~(2)~~ while ~~the~~ joining metallic intermediate layers ~~(3)~~ are arranged accordingly between all ~~the~~ armour layers ~~(1, 2, 4, 5) present in an armour sandwich~~.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The multilayered steel armour according to claim 5, wherein the inserted internal armour layers ~~(4,5) is formed from~~ consist of steel containing from 0.2 wt% to 0.9 wt% of carbon, from 0.1 wt% and 2.0 wt% of manganese, from 0.2 wt% to 2.0 wt% of chromium,

from 0.3 to 4.5 wt% of nickel, from 0.1 wt% to 1.0 wt% of molybdenum, from 0.1 wt% to 2.0 wt% of silicone and no more that about 0.01 wt% of boron, with a remainder of usual impurities.